

**OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

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SENATE FINANCE & CLAIMS <sup>2</sup>Exhibit No. 2Date 3-23-07Bill No. HB 809 <sup>2</sup>  
Culloch  
Superintendent**HB 2 K-12 Public Schools Budget Cut by \$100 Million**

March 18, 2007

On February 14, the House Republican Leadership tabled the state budget bill HB 2 in the Appropriations Committee. HB 2 included general fund distributions to school districts and the OPI agency budget. On March 17 the House passed HB 809, the House Republican Leadership's K-12 budget bill. HB 809 represents a very significant reduction from the K-12 Budget proposed by Governor Schweitzer in HB 2.

**Distribution to K-12 Schools, New Proposals NOT funded, but approved in Governor's Budget (biennium):**

• Full-Time Kindergarten	\$ 29,079,623
• Increase for Quality Educator Payment	21,704,325
• Federal Retirement Cost Correction	6,439,473
• State Lands Royalties for School Facilities Trust	40,756,019
Total	\$ 97,979,440

**Existing OPI budget activities that were cut (biennium):**

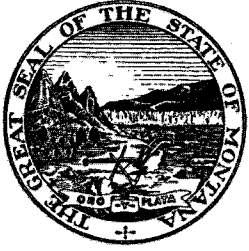
• Indian Education for All (Eliminates Program at OPI)	\$ 3,331,121
• Personal Services Reduction	64,971
Total	\$ 3,396,092

The cuts in existing OPI activities represent a **22% cut** in the current \$15.1 Million OPI state funded budget for the biennium.

**New Proposals NOT funded, but approved in Governor's Budget (biennium):****OPI Agency Funding:**

• 6 Curriculum Specialists	\$ 1,884,516
• Complete Tribal Histories	275,000
Total	\$ 2,159,516

*"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."*



## — Montana Office of Public Instruction —

Linda McCulloch  
State Superintendent

### **Requests Not in House Bill 2, Executive Budget**

Significant requests not included in the Executive Budget are:

- 1) Increase in the **Quality Educator Payment** from the current \$2000 per professional to \$4000 and inflated the second year of the biennium to \$4120. (\$50.914 million) (HB 152)
- 2) A **one time only start up funding of \$10 million for Full-Time Kindergarten** for school districts to use to implement a Full-Time program. It is my intention that this funding be distributed on a per pupil basis to all school districts. (\$10 million)
- 3) An increase in the **Indian Education for All payment** to school districts as found in Sen. Carol Juneau's SB 390. (\$8.616 million)
- 4) A one time only payment to school districts to help offset **fuel costs**, much the same as the Legislature did in the 2005 Special Session. (\$4 million)
- 5) An increase in the **school bus mileage** and funding to pick up or transport students within three miles of their school. (\$2.6 million) (HB 135)
- 6) Add the **new funding components** from the 2005 Special Session to the required **inflation** amount that is currently in statute for the Basic and Per ANB entitlements. Those components are Indian Education for All, At-Risk Students, Quality Educator, and American Indian Achievement Gap. (approx. \$0.7 million)